

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the final Office Action mailed November 16, 2004, as permitted under 37 CFR § 1.114.

Claims 1-9, 14 and 15 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 9 being independent. Claims 10-13 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, Claims 1 and 9 have been amended, and Claims 14 and 15 are newly presented herein.

In view of the amendments above and the remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that in the Office Action mailed November 16, 2004, that dependent Claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended Claim 1, from which Claims 7 and 8 depend, in this Amendment, and submits that Claim 1, at least as amended, is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant has not rewritten Claims 7 and 8 in independent form at this time.

Also in the Office Action dated November 16, 2005, Claims 1-5 and 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,790,193 (Ohmori). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Ohmori.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Nonetheless, to advance prosecution, Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 9 to even more clearly recite their patentable features. In addition, Applicant has cancelled Claims 10-13 without disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and submits that the rejection of those claims is now moot.

Applicant's invention, as recited in independent Claim 1, relates to an image display system including an image display apparatus, a peripheral device, and a guide. The image display apparatus is provided with a first electrode. The peripheral device is provided with a second electrode, which can be mounted onto the image display apparatus. The guide directs a path when a mounting position of the peripheral device on the image display apparatus is changed. In the image display system of Claim 1, the first electrode is placed in such a way as to contact the second electrode when the mounting position is any of a plurality of positions along the guide.

Independent Claim 9 is directed to an image display apparatus capable of mounting a peripheral device. The apparatus of Claim 9 includes a guide and an electrode. The guide directs a path when a mounting position of the peripheral device on the image display apparatus is changed. The electrode contacts an electrode provided on the peripheral device. The electrode of the image display apparatus is placed in such a way as to contact the electrode of the peripheral device when the mounting position is any of a plurality of positions along the guide.

With the features recited in Applicant's independent claims, the electrode provided on the image display apparatus contacts an electrode provided on a peripheral device when the mounting position is any of a plurality of positions along the guide. That is, the image display system and apparatus recited in the independent claims has a plurality of electrical connection positions.

Applicant submits that Ohmori does not teach or suggest at least this feature of Applicant's independent claims. Specifically, Ohmori relates to an accessory module for an electronic camera. In Applicant's understanding, Ohmori discloses a structure for connecting an accessory unit 18 and a camera 12 by inserting an adapter unit 20 connected to the accessory unit 18 to a memory card slot 26 of the camera 12. As illustrated in Figure 1, for example, the adapter unit is electrically connected to the camera at one

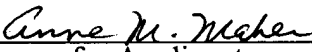
predetermined position in the memory card slot. That is, there is only one electrical connection position. Thus, Applicant submits that the independent claims are patentably distinguishable from Ohmori.

Applicant further submits that the dependent claims are patentably distinguishable from Ohmori for at least the reasons discussed above for their respective base claims. In addition, Applicant submits that the dependent claims are allowable because they recite additional features for distinguishing them from the cited art. Accordingly, individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application, and early passage to issue, are earnestly solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,



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